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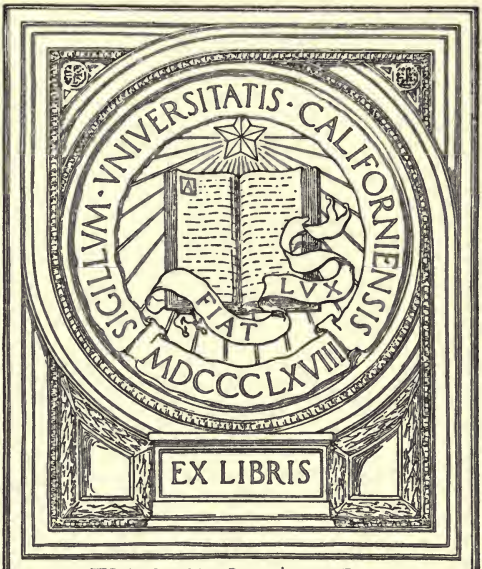
THE PROGRESSIVE ROAD TO READING

STORY STEPS

SILVER, BURDETT & COMPANY

Bella Vista School



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Bella Vista School

THE PROGRESSIVE ROAD TO READING

Story Steps

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PREFACE

TEACHERS of reading will find STORY STEPS a simple and delightful means for holding the interest of children in their first endeavors to interpret the meaning of written or printed symbols.

Sure of the literary content of the story, and of its magnetic power to hold a child's interest, the teacher can joyously follow out the Progressive Road to Reading method as set forth in the Plan of Work, with the full hope of abiding success.

However, it is vital that the preliminary oral and blackboard work prescribed in the Plan of Work be thoroughly done before the book is placed in the hands of the child. The principles underlying the method are fully stated and clearly illustrated in the Plan of Work.

As soon as the teacher has seized the truth that these fundamental principles are always the same no matter how different their application may appear, she has reached the core of power and can thereafter control the entire process.

STORY STEPS is offered as additional material for beginners with the hope that it may prove to be a pleasant by-path to the Progressive Road to Reading.

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The authors wish to acknowledge their indebtedness to the following publishers and authors for the use of copyrighted material:

Milton Bradley Company, for "The Little Pigeon" and "The Little Gray Pony," from "Mother Stories" by Maud Lindsay; Ginn and Company and Luella A. Palmer, for "The Kitten Who Forgot," from "Play Life"; *The Atlantic Educational Journal* for "The Little Pig."

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Dicky Dare

CALIFORNIA

"I am going to school,"
said Dicky Dare.

On the way he met the cow.
"Good morning, Cow,"
said Dicky Dare.

"Moo! Moo!" said the cow.

Said Dicky Dare,
"I am going to school."

"Moo! Moo!" said the cow.

He walked until he met the sheep.
"Good morning, Sheep,"
said Dicky Dare.

"Baa! Baa!" said the sheep.

Said Dicky Dare,
"I am going to school."

"Baa! Baa!" said the sheep.

He walked until he met the pig.
"Good morning, Pig,"
said Dicky Dare.

"Oof! Oof!" said the pig.

Said Dicky Dare,
"I am going to school."

"Oof! Oof!" said the pig.

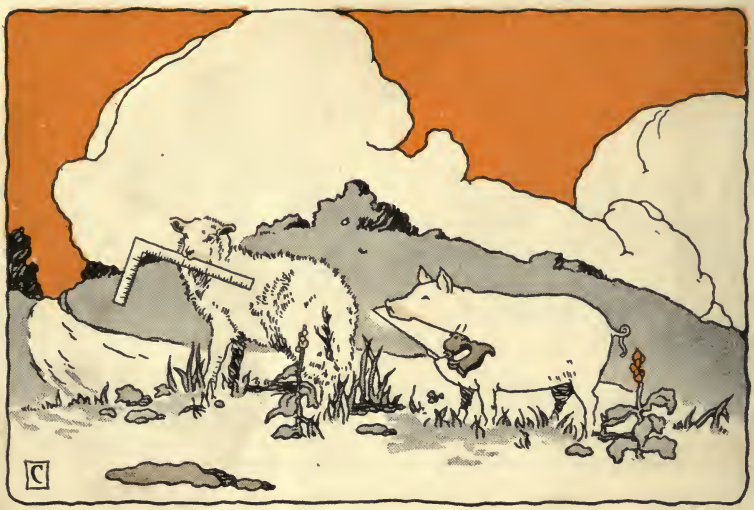
He walked until he met the goose.
"Good morning, Goose,"
said Dicky Dare.

"S-S-S!" said the Goose.

Said Dicky Dare,
"I am going to school."

"S-S-S!" said the goose.

And Dicky Dare went to school.



The Sheep, the Pig, the Cow and the Goose

One morning the sheep and the pig went out to build a house.

On the way they met the cow.

"We are going to build a house, said the sheep and the pig.

"I will go, too," said the cow.

"Will you help build the house?" said the sheep and the pig.

"I will," said the cow.

"Good!" said the sheep. "You may come."

So the pig walked.
The sheep walked.
The cow walked.

They walked
until they met the goose.

"We are going to build a house,"
said the pig and the sheep
and the cow.

"I will go, too," said the goose.

"Will you help build the house?" said the sheep.

"I will," said the goose.

"Good!" said the sheep. "You may come."

So the pig walked.
The sheep walked.
The cow walked.
The goose walked.

They walked and walked.

By and by the sheep said,
"We will build the house here."

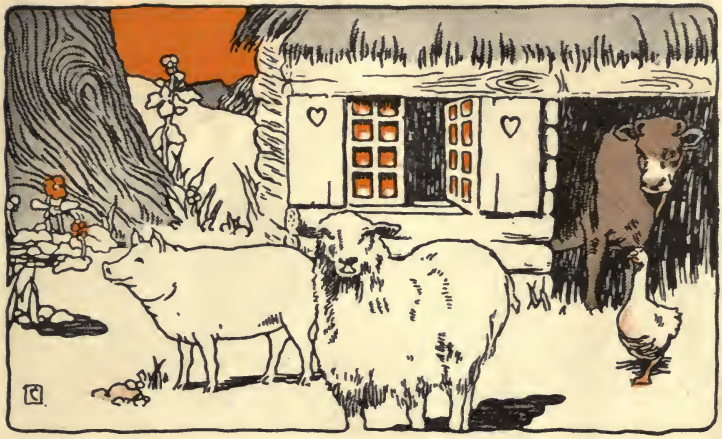
The pig helped.
The cow helped.
The goose helped.

They all helped
to build the house.

The Bear

One day the pig said,
"I am going to the woods
to look for chestnuts."

"I will go, too," said the sheep.



"So will I," said the goose.

"I will not go," said the cow. "The bear is in the woods."

"I am not afraid of the bear," said the sheep.

"I am not afraid of the bear," said the pig.

"I am not afraid of the bear," said the goose.

So the pig and the sheep and the goose started out for the woods.

By and by they met the bear.

"Gr-r-r," said the bear.
"What are you doing in the woods?"

"We are looking for chestnuts," said the sheep.

"Gr-r-r," said the bear.
"The woods are my woods."

The sheep ran.
The pig ran.
The goose ran.

They ran and ran and ran out of the woods.

They ran all the way back to the little house.

Dicky Dare and His Sheep

One day Dicky Dare and the sheep went out to play.

They played and played.

By and by Dicky wanted to go home.

The sheep would not go home.

Dicky Dare said,
"I can not go home,
because my sheep will not go home."
And he began to cry.

A rabbit came by.

"Why do you cry, Dicky?"
said the rabbit.

"I cry," said Dicky,
"because my sheep ran away,
and will not go home."

"Do not cry, Dicky,"
said the rabbit.
"I will make your sheep go home."

And he ran after the sheep.

The sheep would not go home.

Then the rabbit began to cry.

A fox came by.
"Why do you cry, Rabbit?"
said the fox.

"I cry because Dicky cries,"
said the rabbit.
"Dicky cries
because his sheep ran away
and will not go home."

"Do not cry, Dicky," said the fox.
"I will make your sheep go home."

He ran and ran after the sheep.
The sheep would not go home.
Then the fox began to cry.

A little bee flew by.

"Why do you cry, Fox?"
said the bee.

"I cry," said the fox,
"because the rabbit cries.
The rabbit cries because Dicky cries.
Dicky cries because his sheep
ran away and will not go home."

"Do not cry, Dicky," said the bee.
"I will make your sheep go home."

The fox laughed.

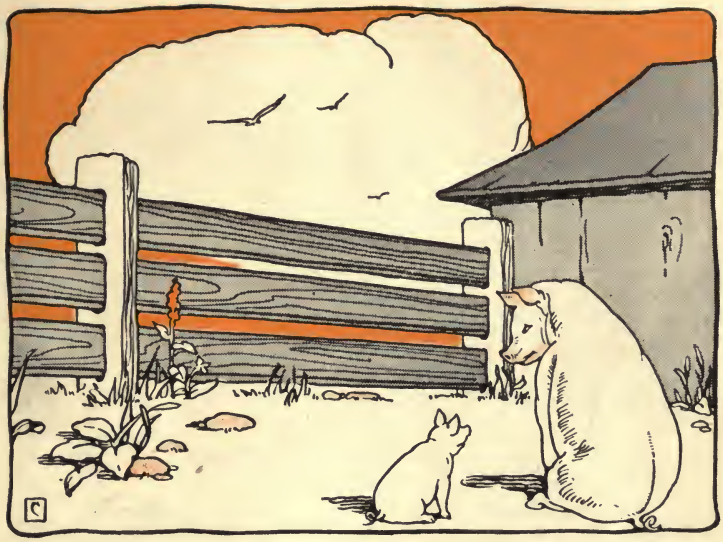
The rabbit laughed.

"You can not make the sheep go home," said the fox.
"You are too little."

"Buzz, buzz!" said the bee.
And he flew after the sheep.

"I will go home," said the sheep.
"The little bee can sting."
And the sheep ran home.

Then Dicky laughed,
and said, "I thank you, Little Bee."



Little Pig

A little pig lived with his mother.

One day the little pig found he had four little feet.

He cried out, "Wee! Wee! Wee! Big Mother Pig, what shall I do with my four little feet?"

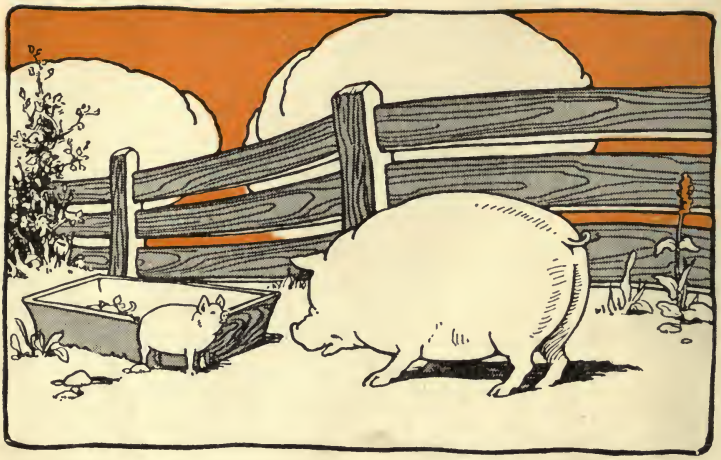
"Oof! Oof! You funny little pig!"
said the mother pig.
"You must run
with your four little feet."

And the little pig
ran round and round the barnyard.

One day the little pig found
he had two little eyes.

He cried out, "Wee! Wee! Wee!
Big Mother Pig, what shall I do
with my two little eyes?"

"Oof! Oof! You funny little pig!"
said the mother pig.
"You must look
with your two little eyes."



And the little pig looked and saw many things.

Then the little pig found he had two little ears.

And he said, "Wee! Wee! Wee! Big Mother Pig, what shall I do with my two little ears?"

"Oof! Oof! You funny little pig!

You must hear
with your two little ears,"
said the mother pig.

And the little pig heard
many things.

By and by the little pig found
his one little mouth.

"Wee! Wee! Wee!" he cried.
"Big Mother Pig, what shall I do
with my one little mouth?"

"Oof! Oof! You funny little pig!"
said the mother pig.
"You must eat
with your one little mouth."

Then the little pig
found his one little nose.
"Wee! Wee! Wee! Big Mother Pig,
what shall I do
with my one little nose?"

"Oof! Oof! Funny little pig!
You must smell
with your one little nose."

Just then a little girl came by.
She had a pail of milk.

With his two little ears,
the little pig
heard her coming.

With his two little eyes,
he saw her put the pail
on the ground.

With his four little feet,
he ran and ran.

With his one little nose,
he went, "Sniff! Sniff!"

And with his one little mouth,
he drank the milk all up.

The Kitten Who Forgot

Once there was a kitten. She lived with a little girl, and a big, big dog.

Every day the kitten played with the little girl and the big, big dog.

One morning,
when the kitten woke up
she was very hungry.

She wanted to ask
the little girl for some milk.

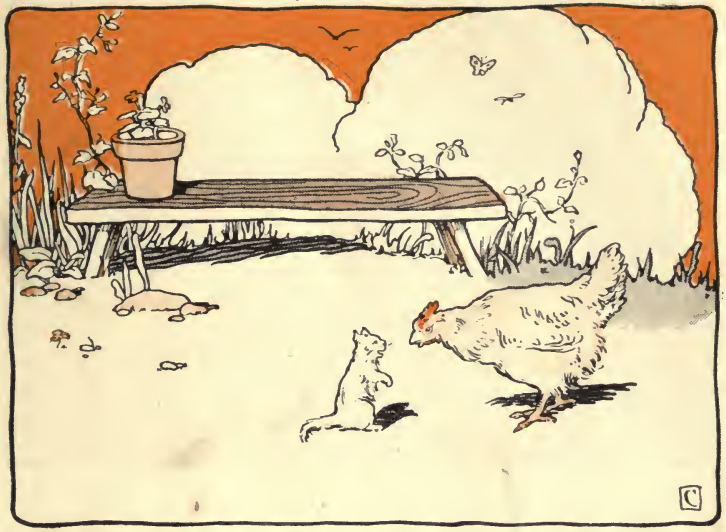
All she could say was,
"Bow! Wow! Wow!"

The kitten began to cry.

She ran into the yard.

She met a hen.

"Why do you cry, Kitten?"
said the hen.

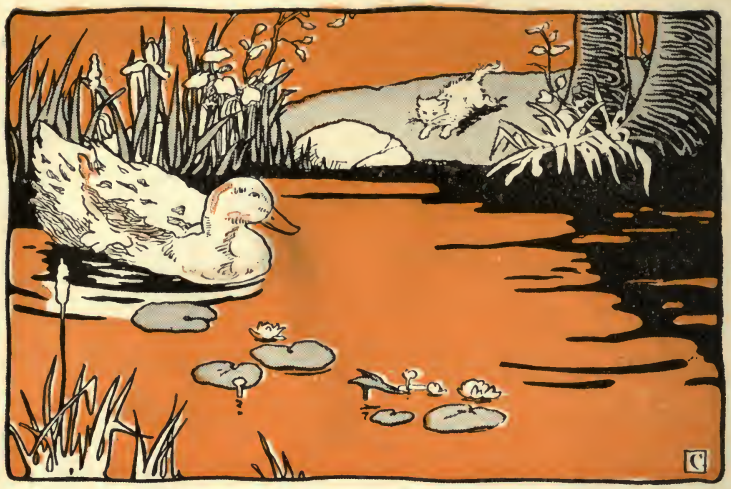


"I cry because I am hungry," said the kitten.

"When I try to ask for milk, all I can say is, Bow! Wow! Wow!"

"I will tell you what to say," said the hen.

"Just say, Cluck! Cluck! Cluck!"



"That is the way a hen talks," said the kitten.
"That is not the way a kitten talks."

She ran on until she met the duck.

"What is the matter, Kitten," said the duck.
"Why do you cry?"

"I cry because I am hungry," said the kitten.
"When I try to ask for some milk, all I can say is, Bow! Wow! Wow!"

"I will tell you what to say," said the duck.
"Just say, Quack! Quack! Quack!"

"That is the way a duck talks," said the kitten.
"That is not the way a kitten talks."

By and by she met a turkey.

"Why do you cry, Kitten?"
said the turkey.

"I am hungry,"
said the kitten.
"When I try to ask for some milk,
all I can say is, Bow! Wow! Wow!"

"I will tell you what to say,"
said the turkey.
"Just say, Gobble! Gobble!
Gobble!"

"That is the way a turkey talks,"
said the kitten.
"That is not the way a kitten talks."

Just then a big, big cat
came walking by.

"Why do you cry, Kitten?"
said the big, big cat.

"I am hungry,"
said the kitten.
"When I try to ask for some milk,
all I can say is, Bow! Wow! Wow!"

"I will tell you what to say,"
said the big, big cat.
"Just say, Meow! Meow! Meow!"

The kitten ran back to the house.
She met the little girl.
The girl had a saucer of milk.

"Meow! Meow! Meow!"
said the kitten.

"Are you hungry, Little Kitten?"
said the girl.
"Do you want some milk?"

"Meow! Meow!" said the kitten.

The girl put the saucer of milk
on the ground.
"There is some milk, Kitten."

And the little kitten
drank it all up.

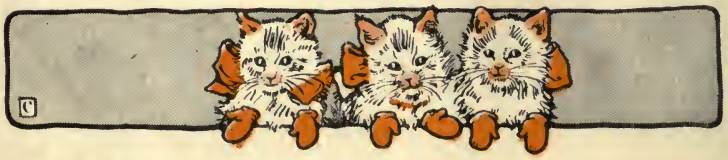
Three Little Kittens

Three little kittens
Lost their mittens,
And they began to cry,
"O mother dear,
We very much fear,
Our mittens we have lost."

"Lost your mittens,
You bad little kittens,
Then you shall have no pie.
Mew, mew, mew!
Then you shall have no pie.
Mew, mew, mew!"

Three little kittens
Found their mittens,
And they began to cry,
"O mother dear,
See here! See here!
See! We have found our mittens."

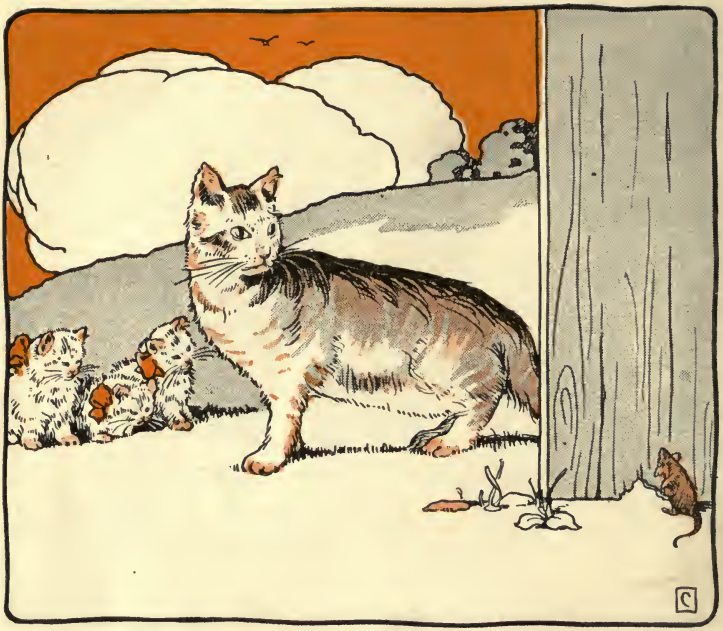
"Put on your mittens,
You funny kittens,
And you shall have some pie.
Purr, purr, purr!
And you shall have some pie.
Purr, purr, purr!"



Three little kittens
Put on their mittens,
And ate up all their pie.
"O mother dear,
We very much fear,
Our mittens we have soiled."

"Soiled your mittens,
You bad little kittens!"
Then they began to cry,
"Mew, mew, mew!"
Then they began to cry,
"Mew, mew, mew!"

Three little kittens
Washed their mittens,
And they began to cry,
"O mother dear,
See here! See here!
Our mittens we have washed."



"Washed your mittens,
You good little kittens,
I smell a mouse near by."
"Hush, hush! Mew, mew!
We smell a mouse near by.
Hush, hush! Mew, mew!"

The Cat and the Mouse

A cat and a mouse
lived in a little house.

One day the cat bit off
the mouse's tail.

"Please, Cat, give me back
my tail," cried the mouse.

"I will give you back your tail,"
said the cat,
"if you will get me some milk."

The mouse went to the cow
to get the milk.

"Please, Cow, give me some milk.
I will give the milk to the cat.
Then the cat
will give me back my tail."

"I will give you the milk,"
said the cow,
"if you will get me some hay."

The mouse went to the farmer
to get the hay.

"Please, Farmer,
give me some hay.
I will give the hay to the cow.
The cow will give me some milk.
I will give the milk to the cat.

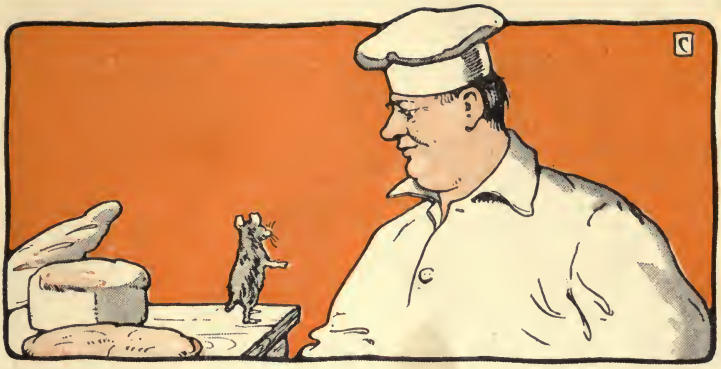
Then the cat
will give me back my tail."

"I will give you the hay,"
said the farmer,
"if you will get me some bread."

The mouse went to the baker
to get the bread.

"Please, Baker,
give me some bread,"
said the mouse.

"I will give the bread
to the farmer.
The farmer will give me some hay.



I will give the hay to the cow.
The cow will give me some milk.
I will give the milk to the cat.
Then the cat
will give me back my tail."

"I will give you the bread,"
said the baker,
"if you will get me some flour."

The mouse went to the miller to get the flour.

"Please, Miller," said the mouse, "give me some flour.
I will give the flour to the baker.
The baker will give me some bread.
I will give the farmer the bread.

The farmer will give me some hay.
I will give the hay to the cow.
The cow will give me some milk.
I will give the milk to the cat.
Then the cat
will give me back my tail."

The miller gave the mouse
some flour.

The mouse took the flour
to the baker, and the baker
gave the mouse some bread.

The mouse took the bread
to the farmer, and the farmer
gave the mouse some hay.

The mouse took the hay to the cow, and the cow gave the mouse some milk.

The mouse took the milk to the cat, and the cat said, "I will give you back your tail." And she did.

The Lion and the Mouse

A lion fell asleep in the woods. He fell asleep near the home of some little mice.

When the mice came out to play, they saw the lion.
One little mouse said,

"We can play hide and seek
on his back."

One mouse hid behind the lion's ear.
One mouse hid under the lion's paw.
"This is fun,"
said the little mice.

Just then the lion woke up.
The mice ran away.
They ran and ran and ran.

All ran but the little mouse
under the lion's paw.
She could not get away.

"O Lion! Please let me go,"
cried the little mouse.

"Why should I let you go?"
said the lion.

"I am so little," said the mouse.
"Please let me go."

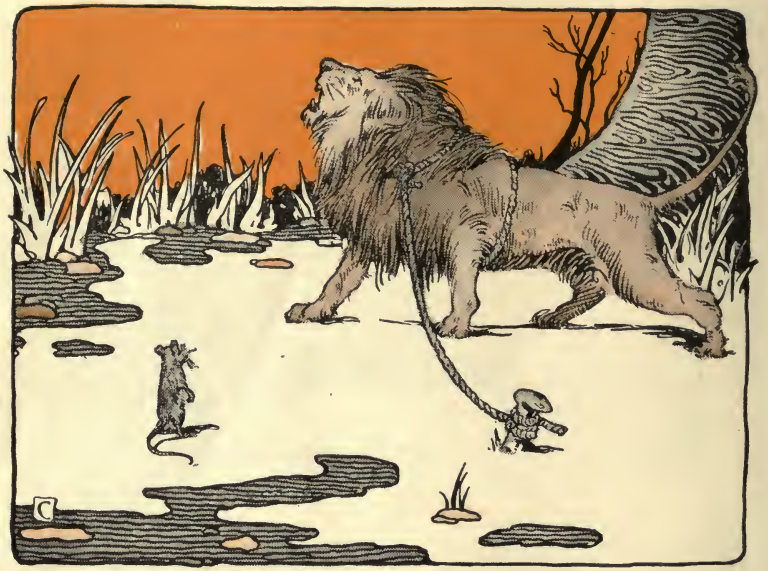
"I am hungry," said the lion.
"I have you under my paw.
I will eat you."

"Do not eat me, Lion,"
said the mouse,
"and some day I will help you."

The lion laughed.

"You can not help me," he said.
"You are only a little mouse.
But I will let you go."

The next day
the little mouse was in the woods.
She heard the roar of a lion.



"That is the old lion," she said.
"I will go and see
why he is roaring."

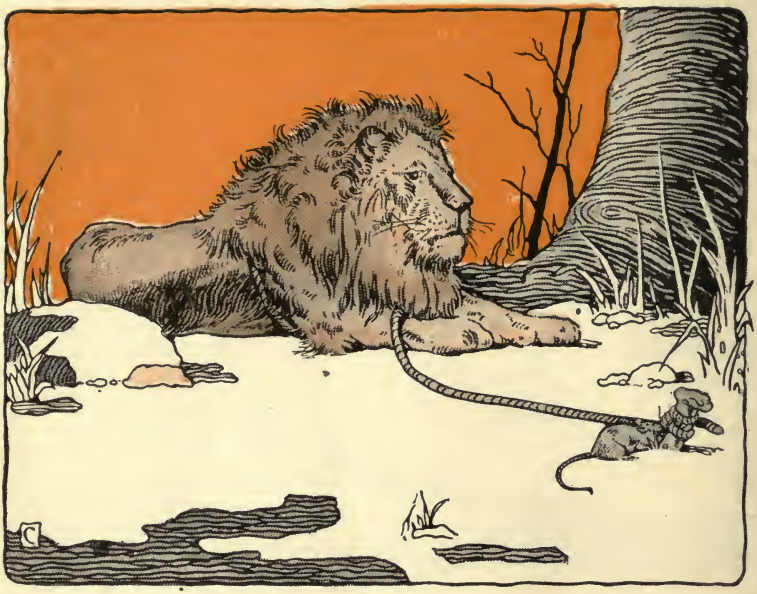
She ran until she found the lion.
"Why do you roar, Lion?"
said the mouse.

"Can you not see?" said the lion.

"I am tied with a rope.
I can not get away."

"Do not roar so loudly, Lion,"
said the mouse.

"I can set you free."



"You can not set me free,"
said the lion.
And he started to roar again.

"Be still," said the mouse,
"and with my sharp teeth
I will cut the rope."

The lion lay still.

With her sharp teeth the mouse cut the rope.

The lion was free.

"I told you I would help you," said the mouse.

"Thank you, Little Mouse," said the lion.

And he walked away.

The Little Pigeon

A little pigeon lived next door to a growly-grizzly bear.

The pigeon had a sweet voice.

The bear had a terrible growl.

"I can not stand this growling," said the little pigeon.
"I must look for a new home."

So the next morning she flew away.

She flew and flew.

By and by she saw a little girl playing in a garden.

"I should like to live
with that little girl,"
said the pigeon.

And she flew down.

"Coo! Coo!" she said,
in her sweet voice.
"May I live with you?"

But just then
the little girl's mother
called her.

"I want to play in the garden,"
said the little girl.

The mother called again.

The little girl began to cry,
"I do not want to come in.
I want to play in the garden."

"Coo! Coo!" said the pigeon.

But the little girl
was crying so loudly
she did not hear
the pigeon's sweet voice.

"I would rather live
next door to a growly-grizzly bear
than with a child
who cries like that,"
said the pigeon.

And she flew away.

She flew on and on.

By and by she saw
a boy and girl playing ball.

"I should like to live
with that boy and girl,"
said the little pigeon,
and she flew down.

"Coo! Coo!" she said,
in her sweet voice.
"May I live with you?
May I live with you?"

But just then
the boy took the girl's ball
and ran away with it.

"Give me my ball,"
shouted the girl.

"I will not," shouted the boy.

"Coo! Coo!" said the pigeon.

But the boy and the girl
were shouting so loudly
they did not hear
the pigeon's sweet voice.

"I would rather live
next door to a growly-grizzly bear
than with a boy and girl
who shout like that,"
said the little pigeon.

And she flew away.

The little pigeon flew and flew.

She flew all day.

She was afraid
she would have to go back
and live next door
to the growly-grizzly bear.

Just then
she heard a sweet sound.

It came from a house
near by.

The little pigeon flew down
to the door of the house.

She saw a little girl.

The little girl was singing
to the baby.

"Coo! Coo!" said the pigeon.
"May I live with you?
May I live with you?"

The little girl heard
the pigeon's sweet voice.

"Little pigeon," she said,
"Come in. Come in."

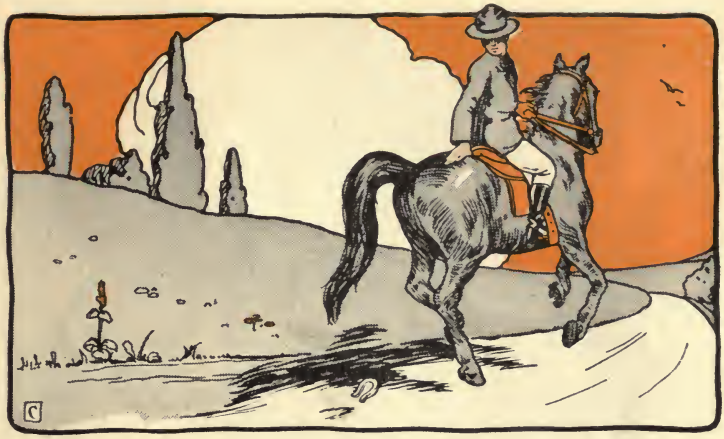
And the little pigeon
went in.

She lived with the little girl
all the days of her life.

And she did not have
to go back
and live next door
to the growly-grizzly bear.

The Little Gray Pony

A man had a little gray pony.
Every day
he would jump on his pony,
and ride and ride and ride.



One day as he rode,
he heard something fall
with a clang.

He cried,
"What shall I do?
What shall I do?
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe."

He ran to the blacksmith.

"Blacksmith! Blacksmith!
I have come to you.
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe."

The blacksmith said,
"I can not shoe
Your pony's feet
Without some coal
The iron to heat."

The man ran to the storekeeper.

"Storekeeper! Storekeeper!
I have come to you.
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe.
And I want some coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
My pony's feet."

But the storekeeper said,
"I have no coal
The iron to heat
That the blacksmith may shoe
Your pony's feet."

The man went to the farmer.

"Farmer! Farmer!
I have come to you.
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe.
And I want some coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
My pony's feet."

The farmer said,
"I have no coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
Your pony's feet."

Then the man went to the miller.

"Miller! Miller!
I have come to you.
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe,
And I want some coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
My pony's feet."

But the miller said,
"I have no coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
Your pony's feet."

Then the man was sad.
He was very sad.

He cried,
"What shall I do?
What shall I do?
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe."

An old woman came by.

"Why are you so sad?"
said the old woman.

The man told her.

Then the old woman laughed,
and the old woman said,
"Go to the miner.
He will give you some coal."

The man said, "Thank you!"

He ran to the miner.

"Miner! Miner!
I have come to you.
My little gray pony
Has lost a shoe.
And I want some coal
The iron to heat,
That the blacksmith may shoe
My pony's feet."

The miner gave the man some coal.

The man took the coal to the blacksmith.

The blacksmith started a fire.

He made a new shoe
for the little gray pony.
Then with a tap, tap, tap,
And a rap, rap, rap,
The man rode away
On his pony gray.

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